

Emergency Support Function #12

Energy

Primary District Agency: DC Energy Office

Support District Agencies: Department of Public Works
District Department of Transportation
Emergency Management Agency
Public Service Commission

Non-Governmental Organizations:

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
Potomac Electric Power Company
Washington Gas

Primary Federal Agency: Department of Energy

Support Federal Agency: Department of Defense/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

I. Introduction

A. Purpose

ESF #12—Energy helps restore the District’s energy systems following a public emergency. The DC Energy Office (DCEO) is the primary agency in the District of Columbia responsible for coordinating with all other governmental department response elements and utilities to restore the District’s energy systems.

B. Scope

ESF #12 gathers, assesses, and shares information on energy system damage and estimates on the impact of energy system outages/shortages within the District of Columbia. The purpose of this ESF is to facilitate restoration of energy systems and fuel supplies following a public emergency. Power and fuel are critical to protecting lives and property and maintaining the continuity of the government, business, transportation, emergency services, and other critical infrastructures within the District of Columbia.

Within the ESF #12 agencies are a variety of assets and resources that may be used in response to any event involving energy or multi-hazard problems. Damage to an energy system in one geographic region may affect energy supplies in other regions that rely on the same delivery systems. For instance, damage to the electric power system, in the District, could have a rippling effect

on supplies, distribution, or transmission systems of electric power or petroleum products in the neighboring states of Virginia and Maryland.

II. Policies

- A. The ESF #12 priorities will be to protect lives and property; maintain the continuity of government, business, transportation, emergency services, and other critical infrastructures within the District of Columbia; and assist other ESFs by aiding in the restoration of damaged energy systems.
- B. DCEO will assign an ESF Liaison Officer to temporary duty at the District Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or other augmentation facility, as needed, to be a member of the Consequence Management Team (CMT).

III. Situation

A. Disaster Condition

The suddenness and devastation of a public emergency, either natural or human-caused, may sever key energy infrastructure, constraining supply in affected areas and, most likely, adversely impacting adjacent areas, especially those with supply links to the directly affected areas. Such an event also could affect transportation, communications, and other infrastructure necessary for sustaining public health and safety, as well as maintaining the continuity of government and a number of critical infrastructures within the District of Columbia.

B. Planning Assumptions

- 1. There may be widespread and possibly prolonged electric power outages or interruptions.
- 2. There may be widespread and possibly prolonged disruption to the supply and distribution of natural gas.
- 3. Transportation and telecommunication infrastructures may be affected.
- 4. Delays in the delivery of petroleum-based products may occur as a result of loss of commercial electric power.

IV. Concept of Operations

A. General

- 1. ESF #12 will consolidate utility reports identifying the assessment of fuel and electric power damage, energy supply and demand, and estimates to repair such systems, as follows:

- a. Coordinate closely with officials to establish priorities to restore critical customer facilities and coordinate the provision of temporary, alternate, or interim sources of emergency fuel and power.
 - b. Obtain current information regarding damage to energy supply and distribution systems and obtain estimates for restoration.
2. ESF #12 will provide timely and credible energy supply assessments and restoration forecasts in times of disaster in coordination with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).
3. ESF #12 will provide technical experts on energy supply production and delivery to coordinate energy information exchange.
4. ESF #12 will coordinate with other ESFs in order to provide timely and accurate energy impact information and recommend options to mitigate impacts.
5. ESF #12 will operate around-the-clock from the EMA EOC as long as necessary.
6. ESF #12 will attain information regarding energy impacts and provide input to situation and other reports through the EOC.
7. ESF #12 will coordinate among federal and mutual aid state officials and energy industries in the region regarding priorities to repair damaged energy systems.

B. Organization

DCEO will coordinate all ESF #12 activity. Because each support agency may be represented at the EOC, the ESF #12 Team Leader will maintain 24-hour contact with those representatives, as necessary, at those locations for the duration of the emergency response period. Support agency representatives will have sufficient knowledge of the capabilities and resources of their agencies, with appropriate authority to commit resources to the response effort.

If a Presidential Disaster Declaration is issued, the ESF #12 Team Leader is the POC within the District and will represent this ESF in its dealings with the District Coordination Officer (DCO), who will issue requests for federal assistance to the Federal Coordinating Officer. After a mission assignment is issued by the Department of Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness and Response/Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/EPR/FEMA) to a federal ESF or agency, the District ESF #12 will coordinate the delivery of assistance for ESF #12. The ESF will have an ESF Liaison Officer present or

available for duty at the Joint Field Office (JFO) on a 24-hour basis for the duration of the emergency response period.

C. Notification

1. The EOC will notify the ESF #12 Team Leader of implementation of the District Response Plan (DRP). The ESF #12 Team Leader will then notify the other primary agencies and appropriate officials by telephone, pager and/or email.
2. The ESF #12 Team Leader will attend any CMT meetings and be available, as necessary, for the duration of the initial response period.

D. Response Actions

1. Initial Actions

- a. Activate the disaster response procedures.
- b. Send an ESF #12 representative to the EOC.
- c. Identify priorities to repair damage and communicate that to facilities.
- d. Coordinate with utility representatives to identify government actions that will help obtain needed resources to repair or restore damaged energy systems.
- e. Use available information to determine the status and assess the energy impacts of the public emergency, including public agency and government resources needed to respond.
- f. Provide periodic situation and any other reports to the EOC as directed by EMA.
- g. Receive and respond to requests for information from neighboring states, local governments, regional bodies, federal agencies, and industry.

2. Continuing Actions

- a. Serve as the focal point for receipt of reports on damage to energy supply and distribution systems and requirements for system restoration.
- b. Advise authorities on priorities for energy restoration process, assistance, and supply.

- c. Assist industry, District, and local emergency response actions.
- d. Locate fuel for transportation, communications, and emergency operations in coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).
- e. Recommend actions to conserve petroleum fuel, electric power, and natural gas, and provide for rationing, as necessary.
- f. Coordinate the collection and reporting of energy supply information to the public.

V. Responsibilities

A. Primary District Agency

DC Energy Office (DCEO)—As the primary District agency for ESF #12, DCEO gathers, assesses, and shares information on energy system damage and estimations on the impact of energy system outages within affected areas during plan activation. DCEO coordinates with all the support agencies to help facilitate the restoration of energy systems and fuel supplies following a public emergency.

B. Support District Agencies and Regional Agencies

1. **Department of Public Works (DPW)**—DPW will provide fuel supplies as needed.
2. **District Department of Transportation (DDOT)**—DDOT will facilitate and coordinate in the restoration of damaged transportation infrastructure within the public right-of-way to reestablish utilities. DDOT will coordinate with PEPCO regarding down power lines caused by trees.
3. **Emergency Management Agency (EMA)**—EMA provides the administrative and logistical mechanism through which ESF #12 interacts with the other ESFs in the EOC at a specified operating location.
4. **Public Service Commission (PSC)**—PSC will provide emergency regulatory action as appropriate to facilitate PEPCO, Washington Gas, and any other suppliers under its mandate in the restoration of services to their customers.
5. **Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG)**—COG will provide consultation and coordination to ensure that emergency responses to issues related to the generation, distribution, and supply of energy are conducted in a regional context.

6. **Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO)**—PEPCO provides electrical services to the public and businesses of the District. PEPCO will ensure communications with the EOC and, if necessary, provide a liaison to the EOC to ensure the effective operation of its communications and coordination of efforts during public emergencies, specifically monitoring the power grid and its impact on the District. PEPCO will provide operational/restoration information reports on response activities to the EOC. Additionally, PEPCO will help EMA prepare an impact statement outlining the effects of a long-term power outage on government operations, as well as the potential threat to the health, welfare, and safety of citizens in the affected areas.
7. **Washington Gas (WG)**—WG provides natural gas to the public and businesses of the District. WG will ensure communications with EOC and, if necessary, provide a liaison to the EOC to ensure effective operation and coordination efforts during public emergencies. WG will provide information on restoration efforts, the areas affected by a gas shortage/outage, the gas distribution impacts of a long-term outage, and the threat to the health, welfare, and safety of citizens. Also, WG will provide assistance to EMA in issuing statements concerning a natural gas shortage or outage situation, including safety recommendations regarding gas appliances and systems during shortage/outage periods.

C. Primary Federal Agency

Department of Energy (DOE)—DOE is the coordinating federal agency for ESF #12 and will provide direct, technical, and other support and guidance to the District through the District counterpart, DCEO. In addition, DOE will support the District in the event of a WMD incident. This DOE support is outlined in Attachment J to the “National Capital Region Weapons of Mass Destruction Incident Contingency Plan.”

Upon the Presidential Declaration of an emergency or major disaster the Department of Homeland Security will implement the NRP. The authority for this action is detailed in the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act as Amended, April 1999. Initially, operations are run from the FEMA Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC). Later, when the Joint Field Office (JFO) is established near the disaster area, the agency ESF representatives that comprise the Emergency Response Team (ERT) will be in the JFO.

D. Support Federal Agency

Department of Defense/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (DOD/USACE)—In support of DOE, as the coordinating federal agency for ESF #3, in a federally declared disaster DOD/USACE will provide electrical generators and other support services as needed to supplement the District’s efforts in the temporary restoration of electrical service.